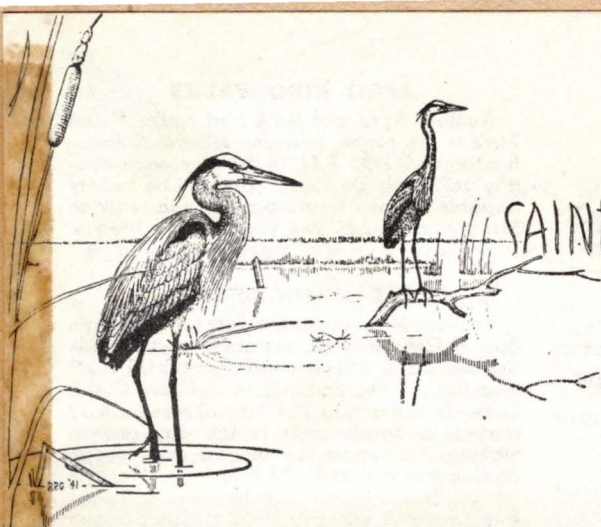




# SAINT LOUIS BIRD CLUB

## BULLETIN

VOL. 1. No. 4

APRIL - MAY, 1942

### ST. LOUIS U. AUDITORIUM--APRIL 10

Last spring we heard a brilliant lecture by Dr. Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. and Dr. George Miksch Sutton, enroute to Mexico as leaders of the Cornell University-Carleton College expedition to Tamaulipas below the Tropic of Cancer. Now Dr. Pettingill returns to report the findings, in a magnificent color picture, "Bird Magic in Mexico." Discoveries in a Mexican Wilderness rancho of the Sabinas Valley of the Sierra Madres, home of the Coppery-tailed Trogon, Groove-billed Ani, Tiger Bittern and Squirrel Cuckoo... You'll see brilliantly plumaged birds, spectacular mountain scenery, a cypress-shaded and moss-draped river, dense forests with flowering plants, gaily colored lizards, and showy butterflies. The action moves swiftly from one episode to another: Green Paroquets feeding in a bamboo tree; an Alta Mira Oriole building its huge, pendulous nest; a Muscovy Duck courting and displaying; the amazing activities of a colony of leaf-cutting ants. Interspersed are numerous striking close-ups: a passion flower, a black and yellow heliconid butterfly; an angry Iguana, and a Broad-billed Hummingbird. Don't forget "Bird Magic in Mexico", Friday evening, April 10th, at 8 P.M.

### BIRD CLUB STAMPS IN DEMAND

Announcement of the publication of a special series of beautifully lithographed Bird stamps has met with enthusiastic approval and demand for the stamps has come from Nature Study Clubs, Bird Clubs, Scout Troops, schools, and all types of organizations and individuals. The artistic achievement is that of Richard P. Grossenheider who has included in his masterpieces an exquisite sketch of the unique European Tree Sparrow, found only in the vicinity of St. Louis. This rare sketch, alone, increases the value of the collection which also includes interesting sketches of the Eastern Green Heron, Eastern Screech Owl, Eastern Sparrow Hawk, Wood Duck and Slate-Colored Junco. To obtain a set of these stamps, order direct from Milt Miller, publisher, at 4647 Page Blvd. The stamps are 25c for a set of six complete with Album or one dollar for a packet of 102 stamps.

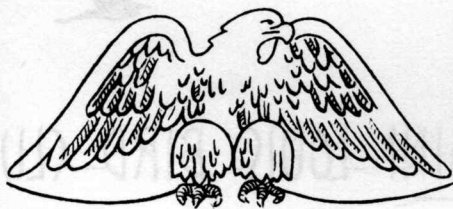


SAINT LOUIS BIRD CLUB  
EUROPEAN TREE SPARROW

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**Note:**—The Adult Study Center has been taken over by the Army. Be sure to come to the St. Louis University Auditorium at 3642 Lindell Blvd. for the Pettingill lecture.

**MAKE YOUR '42 MEMBERSHIP SUSTAINING!**



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## ST. LOUIS BIRD CLUB BULLETIN

VOL. 1. No. 4 April—May, 1942

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### MURL DEUSING MAY 7TH

The Club's '41-'42 lecture season will end in a blaze of glory on Thursday evening, May 7th, when Murl Deusing, Lecturer and Naturalist of the Milwaukee Public Museum, will present his brilliant all-color motion picture lecture, "Wild Wings". Mr. Deusing was the Wilson Club's feature dinner lecturer at its meeting last fall, and many of our members who heard him then testify that "He's as good as they come!" Mr. Deusing's lecture will be held at Brown Hall on the campus of Washington University at 8 p.m.

April 18th and 19th the Burroughs Club of Kansas City is host to the annual spring meeting of the Audubon Society of Missouri. There will be regional papers on Saturday, a banquet, and two field trips, one Saturday afternoon, the other on Sunday. Cars will be furnished by the Burroughs Club. Attend!

### APRIL BIRD WALKS

Another April and more bird walks: Forest Park is the place, Jefferson Memorial specifically, and 7:00 A.M. is the time each Sunday in April. Be there! There'll be twenty capable leaders available at each walk so bring your friends and your friend's friends!

### THE SPRING CENSUS

Sunday, May 10th, is the date for this year's Spring Census. Club members and friends are invited to attend, starting at 6:00 A.M. from the old Sea Scout Base at Creve Coeur Lake. In order that our best observers may scatter to devote most of the day toward making the census the biggest ever, group birding will end at 10:00 A.M.

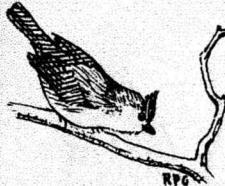
### ART AND PHOTO EXHIBIT

A success from start to finish! That was the St. Louis Bird Club's National Bird Art and Photography Exhibition which was held in the Art Department of the St. Louis Public Library from Mar. 1st to 27th. Photographs, drawings, paintings, prints, water colors, and etchings came from all corners of the country and Canada—from New York to California, Saskatchewan to Georgia—129 photographs in all, 62 art subjects, 127 different species of birds represented. The list of exhibitors is a distinguished one: art by Richard E. Bishop, W. J. Breckenridge, Edw. S. Dingle, Virginia Eifert, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Richard Grossenheider, R. Bruce Horsfall, F. L. Jaques, Athos Menaboni, Wm. Montagna, J. Laurence Murray, Earl S. Poole, E. J. Sawyer, and George Miksch Sutton; photography by Alfred M. Bailey, W. J. Breckenridge, Frank Craighead, A. Dawes DuBois, John H. Gerard, C. E. Gillham, Wm. I. Holzmark, J. Southgate Y. Hoyt, Mrs. Mallett-Kimball, Howard J. Lee, Roger Tory Peterson, Olin Sewall Pettigill, Jr., Miles D. Pirnie, H. H. Pittman, Eliot Porter, Albert D. Simmons, Ruth and H. D. Wheeler, and Laidlaw Williams. Wm. Holzmark was chairman of the exhibition assisted by John H. Gerard, Wayne Short, and Richard Grossenheider.

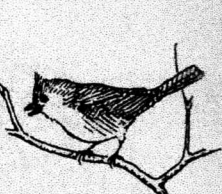
On the evening of March 4th the Library generously held an Open House for club members. A hundred or more members spent the evening browsing among bird books, bird art, and bird photography. The library brought out all its priceless Audubons and many other printed ornithological treasures to make the evening a treat we'll long remember.

On Sunday, March 8th, the St. Louis Post Dispatch presented a page of pictures from the exhibition. If you failed to see it, get a back copy. Also, a "breakdown" listing all of the photographs and art subjects exhibited is available to members as long as the supply lasts. Call or write the Club Secretary.





# Observations



## FEBRUARY BIRD OF THE MONTH

The Bird of the Month for February was a magnificent find—an Old Squaw—observed at Harbor Point Village in St. Charles County on February 15 by Wayne Short, Mrs. Jos. E. Vollmar, Bill Dierker, Mary Sue Patton, Helen O'Moran, and Marie Fischer, members of the Saturday Adult Study Center Popular Ornithology Class. The Sunday section returned the next morning to find said Old Squaw waiting at the same spot for even closer observation! News spread fast and by evening Albert Berkowitz, the Zempels, and the Comforts had capitalized on the find. The Old Squaw has been recorded here only 2 or 3 times in the last decade.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bill Holzmark and John Gerard were runners-up in February with a Horned Grebe at Peruque on February 16.

\*\*\*\*\*

Some hundreds of Lapland Longspurs, many Prairie Horned Larks, and a few Northern Horned Larks were seen near Peruque in St. Charles County between February 15 and March 1. Apparently these birds remained in the same field during the two weeks as they were first seen by Dr. and Mrs. Zempel and Mrs. H. R. Grummann, later by Reed Harkness and Marvin Beckmann, then by Miss L. R. Ernst and Richard Grossenheider, and a few days later by the two Adult Study Center Popular Ornithology classes.

\*\*\*\*\*

The first American Golden Plovers this spring, a flock of 24, were observed near Peruque by the members of the Saturday Ornithology Class on March 21. Naturally the Sunday Class repeated and as usual went them better with two flocks!

## THRILLS WITH BAILEY!

The spanking clean lines of the "Kinkajou," the bronzed bodies of the men, and the deep blue of the tropical seas... how vividly these nostalgic scenes unfolded before our eyes at the wonderful Alfred M. Bailey lecture on March second. We learned that the Blue-footed Booby really has azure extremities... that the scarlet pouter-pouch of the sable-winged Man-O-War is as fascinating as a toy balloon... that blubbery looking Sea Elephants are fun to watch. But most of all, we learned that the St. Louis Bird Club provides the most entertaining, informative and completely perfect lectures available anywhere! Don't you know someone who would enjoy them with us? Why not invite him to join the club?

## MARCH BIRD OF THE MONTH

In this case it was "Birds of the Month", a whole flock—20 to 25—Bohemian Waxwings observed by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Comfort in Glendale on March 22nd. Rare Missouri visitants, Bohemian Waxwings are always an enviable find.

## THE LEADERS

It's a warm race, this year's competition for "Birder of the Year" honors: First to reach 100 species in 1942 was Wayne Short who crossed the line at 11:05 A.M., March 29th. James Earl Comfort scored at 6 P.M. the same day. Leaders at the close of the day were—Wayne Short, 102; James Earl Comfort, 100; Mrs. Arnold Zempel, 96; Helen Einspanier, 95; Alberta Bolinger, 94.

\*\*\*\*\*

Emerson Finney, informs us that a Coot made what evidently was a forced landing in his backyard here in town recently and was cornered in a runway. Mr. Coot was turned over to Zoo authorities.

\*\*\*\*\*

Twelve American Pipits at Creve Coeur on March 6th go to the credit of Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Zempel.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. T. E. Musselman writes from Quincy, Illinois his pleasure in knowing that Club members here have observed an Avocet in Illinois. Dr. Musselman says he believes this to be the third Avocet record in Illinois, and all were on the same date, October 18th—1878, 1938, and ours in 1941.

\*\*\*\*\*

Redheads and Buffleheads are being reported in greater numbers than in several years, though they're still scarce, of course.

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## Who's Who?



As provided by the Club constitution, the officers have chosen two board members who, along with the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor, are to direct the Club's destinies during 1942. They are James Earl Comfort and Max Schwarz. Miss L. R. Ernst serves as Board Member Emeritus.

\*\*\*\*\*

O. A. Wilson, who spent a considerable amount of time in the Army last year, then was returned to civilian life, is back again at Fort Leonard Wood. The Club's great loss and the Army's great gain is Richard Grossenheider scheduled for induction April 14th.

\*\*\*\*\*

Size, we are told, is an important factor in identifying birds. One of our potential members, Miss Abby Lee Berkowitz, age 17 months, must have heard this since she recently surprised her mother, Mrs. Albert Berkowitz, by designating some as "birds" and others as "big birds".

\*\*\*\*\*

On April 10, Mrs. G. H. Klinkerfuss, will address the Webster Groves Garden Club, Group No. 13, on the subject of "Birds".

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A warm welcome awaits the birds this spring at the Klinkerfuss home. The chimney has been swept clean for the Chimney Swifts' arrival and the barn door has been left ajar for the Barn Swallows.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our very good friend, Dr. George Miksch Sutton, has generously offered to send those interested a copy of a recent magazine article of his describing the newly discovered warbler, Sutton's Warbler. Write Dr. Sutton at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

\*\*\*\*\*

The airwaves have been kept humming recently by several of our high-flying birders. Mrs. H. R. Grumann presented a highly successful series of bird talks on KFEO each Tuesday in March. Marian Pough gave a bird book talk on KXOK March 4th. On that same day James Earl Comfort was interviewed on KWK by M.J.B.

March Sustaining Members: Ingram F. Boyd, Sr., R. Fairfax Funsten, Mrs. R. Fairfax Funsten, Mrs. Joseph E. Vollmar, Mrs. Edw. J. Walsh.

\*\*\*\*\*

March New Active Members: John Carroll, Irene Cordell, Mr. Clinton H. Day, Mrs. Frieda Gaston, E. G. Hancock, Mrs. J. B. Killebrew, Mr. J. B. Killebrew, Schon Lockhart, Jean Losffel, Arthur Osseck, Waldemar A. Palm, Miss Grace Rinderknecht, Mrs. J. Rinderknecht, Mrs. Edna Stueck.

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The Southwest High School Bird Club, under the leadership of Norman Jones, is affiliated with the St. Louis Bird Club, supplies us assistant Bird Walk leaders, and is doing a good bird club job.

\*\*\*\*\*

Richard Grossenheider, Club artist, was feature exhibitor at the annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, March 31st to April 4th, when 65 of his drawings for Dr. Wm. H. Burt's new Michigan Mammals' book were exhibited at the meeting along with a few Suttons and Lynn Bogue Hunts. The exhibition was held at the American Museum of Natural History.

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Now living in St. Louis: Mrs. Francis E. Finch, 7354 Northmoor Drive, sister of Mrs. Louis Agassiz Fuertes. Let's make her acquaintance.

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Mrs. H. R. Grumann addressed the Clifton Heights Garden Club at the Mason School February 18, speaking on "Winter Defense for the Birds".

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Now a permanent resident in St. Louis: Menaboni's Boat-tailed Grackle. The new owner of this feature painting from the Club's recent bird and photography exhibition: Mrs. Jos. E. Vollmar.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Beulah Bedell, teaching at Bristol School in Webster Groves, has organized a Junior Audubon Club which meets weekly. There are eighteen members, children of ten and eleven. Miss Tillie Hollman has been doing similar Junior Audubon work for several years. Why not others?

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Last minute item: On WIL, Friday, April 3, Miss Kay Morton presented in a delightful bird interview Mrs. Jos. E. Vollmar.